

## THE ARIZONA KICKER

A CONTEMPORARY ATTENDS MRS. BEECHEM'S "AT HOME."

The Editor of The Kicker Exposes an Impostor—A Warning to Old Jim Hewson and His Crowd—The Death of a Man With a Short Neck.

Wednesday evening last Mrs. General Beechem gave an "at home" in order to show off a \$40 dress she has lately received from Chicago, and as she had her invitations printed at the office of our esteemed contemporary she felt under obligations to include him in the list. How the old critter ever worked up nerve enough to attend is a mystery to us, as the only society he is used to is that of Sing Lung, his Chinese laundryman, and his old bobtailed dog. In paying his respects to the hostess he fell over a \$5 gilt chair and broke it to pieces, and in swallowing a glass of punch he got some of the liquid down the wrong way and almost coughed his blamed old head off. Later in the evening he wiped his chin on a window curtain and broke the glasses with his elbow. As a grand culmination he called Major Shorter a liar and was flung outdoors in the mud. Mrs. Beechem's embarrassment and vexation could not be concealed, but she has only herself to blame. A blooming old cadaver, who never even attended a dog fight or a spelling school, can't be expected to mingle in high toned society and make much of a success of it.

Not With the Kicker. At a late hour Tuesday evening we were called up by telephone from Baker's Bend to give information regarding a stranger who was about to be hung by the vigilance committee. He was described as a one eyed man with a stiff knee and an old navy revolver and had been caught in the act of stealing a cayuse tied to a post in the village. The man claimed to be our agricultural editor, out on a hunt for new species of grasses, and he appeared so earnest and truthful that the committee telephoned to find out about it. As we knew our agricultural editor to be in the Bald Eagle poker rooms at that very moment, hunting for aces instead of

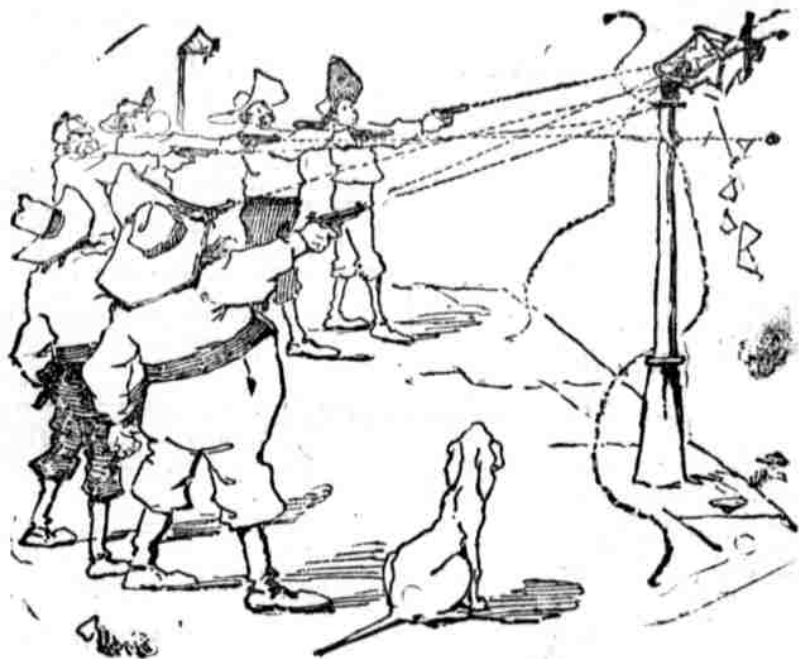
ascertained the people became excited and held a mass meeting, and the result was that 10 delegates were sent out to overhaul Mr. Hopkins. He could have explained matters to their satisfaction, no doubt, but they were so earnest about it that he decided to return with them and make a public speech. Next day we got word that everything was lovely. While Mr. Hopkins had no idea of leaving the country and only had \$10 in cash with him, the public cannot be blamed for being a bit overzealous. Nothing but a square deal goes.

It Must Stop. This town is lighted at night by six kerosene lamps, and old Jim Hewson and his crowd get together regularly at 8 o'clock every evening and shoot the six lamps into the middle of the next day. This has been going on for about four weeks, much to the annoyance of citizens and the financial damage of the town treasury. His honor the mayor (who is ourself) gives public notice that from and after this evening he and the city marshal will be abroad after lamplight, and any found popping at the public lamps may look out for a pop in return.

Friday morning a halfbreed named Joe Chin was found dead in the road, a mile west of town, and a coroner's investigation revealed the fact that he had drank the contents of a two quart jug containing horse medicine. Joe Chin is the critter who stole and ate five pounds of roller composition belonging to The Kicker office. It gave him cramps for three or four days, but he eventually became frisky again. One of the ingredients of the medicine was antimony, but it took the full two quarts to make Joe lie down.

He was the biggest thief and liar for 100 miles around, and no one will regret his taking off. Why the vigilance committee didn't hang him long ago is a matter to be wondered over, though it may be that the shortness of his neck had something to do with it. It could not have been broken by anything less than a fall of 50 feet. It is no use hoping Jim is with the angels. He's gone where it would burn the feathers of angels' wings like dry grass.

M. QUAD.



JIM HEWSON AND HIS CROWD.

grasses, we were obliged to answer that the stranger was an impostor. He was allowed to step to the telephone and call us a liar, but we received his compliments more in sorrow than in anger. Ten minutes after his words reached us he was hanging up and down and taking no further interest in horses and agriculture. Our thanks are due the committee, and we trust that it may be their luck to put us under further obligations.

## A Grand Success.

The Booth Dramatic association left here Friday noon for the railroad and California loaded down with money. The two night performance was the grandest success of the season, and we rather pride ourselves that we were the cause of it. When the manager arrived here, we sat down with him and told him what would take and what would not with the people of this town. He was sensible enough to see the point and to cater to the idioms of theater goers, and everything passed off as smooth as a buttered bar'l of molasses. Instead of running the tragedy the company gave us a mixture of "Hamlet," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Lady Audley's Secret," "Buffalo Bill," "The Merchant of Venice," "The Robber's Roost" and "Blue and Gray." There were heroism, love, villainy, clog dancing, songs, Indian fights, abductions and lots of other things nicely mixed together, and those who had come with two guns prepared to shoot were so captivated and carried away that they fired silver dollars instead of bullets among the actors. We do not plume ourselves on being a theatrical critic, but we do know what will make a go of it in this town, and we stand ready to extend our fatherly advice to other managers.

## He Returned.

Mr. John Hopkins, the well known and highly esteemed banker at Pine Hill, arrived in town Wednesday morning on a visit to his aged mother. He had scarcely clasped her to his manly breast and taken a drink at the White Dog saloon when 16 citizens of the Hill appeared and demanded an interview with him. It seems he had left Pine Hill without saying anything to anybody and had only placed \$600 on the counter for his cashier to do business with for the day. As soon as this was

## Tenacity of Face.

"Adieu," he whispered and departed. But her face was still with him. "Adieu."

Her face was still with him, although he literally soaked the shoulder of his coat in benzine and ammonia the minute he got home.—Detroit Tribune.

## There Are Drawbacks.

She threw aside the paper and looked at him as if she were about to give him a whole problem novel at one volley. "Wouldn't you like to be a king or a prince or something in the line of royalty?" she asked. "Well, I don't know," he replied doubtfully. "Royalty has a good many drawbacks."

"Yes, I suppose it has," she admitted, "but it must have a great many pleasures too. Think of the wealth and position and power for good."

"I do," he answered, "but there's more to be considered than that. I'd want to know who was going to be poet laureate before I'd even consider a proposition to sit on a throne."—Chicago Post.

## Unfavorable Start.

"I was very glad, Mabel, to see you among those who were received into the church last Sunday."

"Yes, auntie, but I was so provoked with the clergyman. He gave me the old style, unfashionable handshake. And he gets a salary of \$6,000 a year."—Chicago Tribune.

## You've Noticed It.

"There is one queer thing about all these men who get nominated for high political offices."

"What is it?"

"They are always so happily married."—Chicago Record.

## As Usual.

"When the sleeping car went over the embankment, were you hurt?"

"Oh, no. The porter held me up."—Detroit Free Press.

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